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SOUTH CAROLINA
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT

JUNE - JULY, 1975



Sherry Granade, Pilot International's "Handicapped Professional Woman of the Year," kneels with a group of kindergarten students for story time.

Pilot International Names South Carolina "Handicapped Professional Woman of the Year"

Pilot Club International honored Sherry Granade of Columbia, South Carolina at its convention in Houston, Texas, by naming her its 1975 "Handicapped Professional Woman of the Year."

She was nominated to represent District IV in national competition, since she was district winner of the award. Dill D. Beckman, Commissioner of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department and Chairman of the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, presented the award at the district meeting in Myrtle Beach.

A native of Aiken, Sherry is a kindergarten teacher at Kampus Kiddie Nursery, operated by the University of South Carolina.

Sherry was born with a severe physical disability, but she never let it keep her from doing anything she wanted to do.

She started out in life as a triple amputee with only one arm fully developed. She was fitted with her first prosthesis at the age of 14 months.

Despite this severe disability, Sherry learned to walk, write, type, swim and engage in a wide

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VR Department Holds Training Conference For Personnel

The South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department held a training conference for personnel from its 15 areas of the state in Myrtle Beach, June 11-13, 1975.

The theme of the meeting was "Rehabilitation: Attitudes and Responsibilities." Over 250 participants attended the meeting.

The program of the 3-day conference was designed to give the staff of the department insight into the scope of their responsibilities to the disabled population of South Carolina.

Carroll A. Campbell, Jr., Executive Assistant for Public Affairs in the Office of the Governor, spoke to the group on attitudes and responsibilities of the state.

Also on the program for the conference were Craig Mills, former Director of the Florida Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, and Dr. Stephen J. Cornett, Acting Director of Rehabilitation Services Administration, Office of Human Development, Atlanta.

Consultants on the program included: Dr. Robert H. Couch, Auburn University; Dr. George H. Orvin, Medical University of South Carolina; Dr. David E. Stenmark, University of South Carolina; Dr. Virginia Hardee, psychologist; Dr. Louis B. Trucks, Auburn University; Sandro Blalock, S. C. Chamber of Commerce; and Dr. William H. Hale, University of Georgia.

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variety of normal activities throughout the years. She even learned to drive a specially constructed automobile her family gave her when she graduated from high school.

After her graduation from Aiken High School in 1969, Sherry was referred to the Aiken Area Vocational Rehabilitation Office. She attended the University of South Carolina under Vocational Rehabilitation sponsoring, and graduated magna cum laude with a degree in education in 1972. She was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. She received a master's degree in education in 1973.

Her Vocational Rehabilitation counselor notes that she was "fortunate to live with grandparents who loved her enough to demand that she do as much for herself as she possibly could. Throughout her years of growing up, she was wisely and carefully guided by her family to achieve whatever goals she set for herself."

He added that "she was encouraged not to think of herself as different from others or to demand special favors because of her handicap. She always accepted her share of responsibility and

New VR Workshops Under Construction

Construction is under way for three new workshop facilities of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held recently for facilities in Charleston, Walterboro and Orangeburg.

These facilities are designed to provide improved services to the handicapped in South Carolina. They are to be owned and operated by the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department.

According to Dill D. Beckman, Commissioner of the Department, "we have realized for years that we needed these facilities in order to provide the services necessary to return handicapped people to gainful employment. Just as able-

worked cheerfully and tried to direct attention away from her handicap rather than to it."

Sherry has done volunteer work at the Columbia School for the Hearing Impaired for the past year or two, work which has so captured her interest as to lead her to study for a second master's degree in the field of the education of the hearing impaired.

bodied people need other technical and educational training, disabled people need the services which can be provided at these workshop facilities."

The facilities provide evaluation, training, work experience and other services necessary to rehabilitate the severely handicapped and return them to gainful employment. They will be modern, architectural barrier free and designed for effective operation.

Planning and designing for these facilities, all of which will be basically on the same design, have been going on over the past few years. The architectural firm of Miller, Jackson and Associates was employed by Vocational Rehabilitation for the purpose of perfecting the plans and adapting them to the lots in different cities in the state where the centers are to be located.

General contractor for the facility in Walterboro is J. O. Baldwin Construction Company of Crescent Beach; in Charleston, Threatt-Maxwell Contractors of Greenville; and in Orangeburg, Avery Lumber Company of Sumter.

(Left) Dill D. Beckman watches as Rep. Peden McLeod and Sen. J. P. Harrelson, both of Walterboro, break ground for the Walterboro Rehabilitation Center.

(Below) Mrs. Louise Ravenel, member of the Charleston Workshop Board, turns ground for the Charleston Rehabilitation Center as others look on. They are (from left) Ron Brinson, representing Governor James B. Edwards; Dill D. Beckman, Commissioner, South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department; Henry J. Lee, Chairman, Charleston Workshop Board; Ralph L. Miller, Elks Lodge #242; and Charles Fruit, Executive Director, Charleston County United Way.



More Awards Presented At SCRA Meeting...



(Top Right) Dill D. Beckman, Commissioner of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, presents the 1975 Professional of the Year Award to H. B. Powell, Jr., Florence Area Supervisor of the Department. Also pictured is E. Roy Stone, Jr., Chairman of the South Carolina State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The award is presented annually to an outstanding professional employed by the Department. Powell has been with the Department for 29 years.

(Above) James H. McKinney, Jr., accepts a Media Citation for the Greenville News from E. Roy Stone, Jr., Chairman of the South Carolina Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation.

(Bottom Right) John A. Montgomery of Columbia, member of the South Carolina Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation, presents a media citation to David Handy, representing WSPA-TV in Spartanburg.

James McClary Retires After 33 Years Service

James McClary, an employee of the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, has retired after 33 years of service to the handicapped people of South Carolina.

He was Supervisor of the Workshops and Facilities Division of the Department since 1968.

He began working with the Department in 1942 as a specialist in services for the tuberculous. Since that time he has served as District Supervisor, Technical Services Officer and Supervisor of Rehabilitation Services, prior to his position

as Supervisor of Workshops and Facilities.

He was instrumental in setting up the first workshop in the State of South Carolina for the purpose of providing services to the handicapped in order to return them to gainful employment where possible.

It was through his leadership that the network of vocational rehabilitation workshops in South Carolina has become one of the finest in the nation.

A native of Georgetown, McClary is a graduate of Presbyterian College.

Awards Presented For 1975 NRA Membership Drive

Awards for outstanding sales of National Rehabilitation Association (NRA) memberships for 1975 were presented at the annual meeting of the South Carolina Chapter of NRA.

The Orangeburg Area won the South Carolina chapter trophy for the largest increase in membership points. John Lybrand, Area Supervisor of the Orangeburg Area, obtained the most new membership points and attended the regional convention in Tampa, Florida in April.

Carl Brock, Project Supervisor, Greenwood Workshop, obtained the most membership points and will attend the National convention in Cincinnati in October, 1975. In addition to Brock, James Buchanan,

William Bowman, John Lybrand and Gordon Middleton received free NRA memberships for this year for soliciting at least 140 new membership points.

As a special incentive, a free life membership was offered by the national office to those soliciting the minimum number of new memberships. Of the eight individuals eligible in South Carolina, Dennis Floyd of Hartsville was awarded a free life membership.

Edward H. McMillion, Training Coordinator in the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, was State NRA Membership Chairman for the campaign.

South Carolina was in the top ten states in the nation in sales.

IN MEMORY OF DR. WILLIAM L. BYERLY, SR.

It was with deep regret that we learned of the death on May 24, 1975, of Dr. William L. Byerly, Sr., Member Emeritus of the South Carolina State Agency of Vocational Rehabilitation.

Dr. Byerly, a physician in Hartsville for a number of years, was an original member of the Agency Board, having served since 1957.

On May 28, 1974, the South Carolina General Assembly passed a resolution naming Dr. Byerly Member Emeritus of the Agency Board.



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E. ROY STONE, JR., Chairman
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301 Landmark Center, Forest Drive
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LYN D. JOHNSON, Editor

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Senator and Mrs. Strom Thurmond lead a group of handicapped individuals from around the state into the Riverbanks Zoo for "Handicapped Citizens Day." Mrs. Thurmond coordinated this project.

Vocational Rehabilitation Department
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